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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of: : Art Unit: 2644  
Rubacha et al. : Examiner: Singh  
Serial No.: 09/482,229 : Date: March 1, 2004  
Filed: January 13, 2000 :  
For: *Soft Mute Circuit*

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DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER RULE 56

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

SIR:

Enclosed are an Information Disclosure Citation sheet listing eight patents. Also enclosed are a copy of the International Search Report and a copy of the Supplementary European Search Report from the PCT and European patent applications corresponding to the above-identified application. A copy of each citation is enclosed. The '745 Arbel patent corresponds to European Patent Application EP0364484.

Under Rule 104(a)(1), "The examination shall be complete with respect ... to the patentability of the invention as claimed." Patents cited in the International

Search Report, signed by the Examiner's supervisor, were not cited by the Examiner in this application. It is not clear whether the Examiner ignored the International Search Report or disagreed with its assertions of materiality. It is requested that all cited prior art be made of record in this application and be considered during examination.

It is respectfully submitted that the invention as described and claimed is not disclosed or suggested by the prior art cited.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul F. Wille

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